

Senate District E

Gary R. Wilken, Republican



DATE OF BIRTH: January 24, 1946

PLACE OF BIRTH: Tacoma, Washington

NAME OF SPOUSE: Susan

CHILDREN: Matt (33), Allison (29), Karen (26), Bobby (24)

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: 2600 Riverview Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

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OCCUPATION:
Small business owner, wholesale food distributor

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 49 years
Fairbanks 1951-1970, 1975 to present

EDUCATION:
Lathrop High School, 1960-1964, Diploma; Oregon State University, 1964-1968, B.S., 1968-1970, M.B.A.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:
Senator, 1997-present, chair, Health, Education, and Social Services. Member: Senate Finance, Transportation, Legislative Budget and Audit. Senate chair, Joint Armed Services Committee; chair, Long Term Care Task Force; member, Deferred Maintenance Task Force.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Chair, Community Activity Task Force; member, USAF General's Civilian Advisory Board; member, Council on Economic Education.

SERVICE ORGANIZATION(S) MEMBERSHIP:

Member, Fairbanks Youth Sports Board; member, Rotary of Fairbanks, (president, 1986-1987); member, Chamber of Commerce (president, 1991-1992), member, Alaska Crippled Children and Adults Board; chair, Tanana Valley Youth Sports Foundation.

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Family, Alaska's outdoors, boating.

OTHER:

Daily News-Miner Community Service Award, 1990; UAF Business Leader of the Year, 1995; Fairbanks Rotarian of the Year, 1990; Messer Military Service Award, 1997; OSU Sports Hall of Fame (team), 1993.

STATEMENT:

My family, my business, and involvement in my community have taught me that to be successful in our legislature, I must:

1) continue to recognize the value of each Alaskan as an individual, 2) listen to all sides of an issue, 3) first have a plan and then the patience to see it through, 4) struggle for a vision to see beyond tomorrow, and 5) to be honest and fair.

My message to the residents of Fairbanks is one of optimism and hope for my hometown and for our great state. I openly promise to those who chose to entrust in me this honor of representation, to continue to work hard at bringing common sense, civility, and compassion as I am privileged to participate in setting the priorities of our state.

My priorities are to keep government at it's absolute minimum while recognizing the true needs of our state as: a) public safety, b) job creation, c) education, d) sound fiscal management, and e) a shared vision of "one Alaska" that is grounded in unbridled pride in, and a common respect for, our state and for each other.

As your state senator I will continue to make important to the legislature what is important to the people I represent. I will strive to be a statesman rather than a politician as I always remember lessons learned from my pioneer parents that hard work and commitment are everything.

provided and paid for by the candidate